

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 were indicated as being allowable. By this amendment, new claims 12-58 have been added. As a result, claims 1-58 are pending for examination with claims 1, 4, 12, 42, and 55 being independent claims. No new matter has been added.

I. Claim Amendments

Applicant notes with appreciation the indicated allowability of claims 1-11. Claims 6 and 8 have been amended for the sole purpose of providing proper antecedent basis to the claim set.

II. Amendments to the Specification

The amendments to the specification have been made for the purpose of clarification. In particular, the amendments have been made to provide consistency between the written description and the figures.

III. New Claims

New claims 12-58 have been added.

Claim 12 is directed to a circuit for controlling at least one thyristor of a rectifying bridge. The circuit comprises an element for inhibiting a gate current of the thyristor in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor. Claim 12 is in condition for allowance since the art of record fails to teach the claimed element for inhibiting a gate current of the thyristor in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor.

Claims 13-41 depend from claim 12 and are allowable for at least the same reason.

Claim 42 recites a method of controlling at least one thyristor of a rectifying bridge. The method comprises inhibiting a gate current of the thyristor in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor. Claim 42 is in condition for allowance since the art of record fails to teach the claimed method, for example, inhibiting a gate current of the thyristor in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor.

Claims 43-54 depend from claim 42 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 55 is directed to a circuit for controlling at least one thyristor of a rectifying bridge. The circuit comprises a current generator for generating a gate current of the thyristor, and means for inhibiting the gate current in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor. Claim 55 is in condition for allowance since the art of record fails to teach the claimed circuit. For example, the art of record at least fails to teach the claimed means for inhibiting the gate current in response to a current in the thyristor exceeding a latching current of the thyristor.

Claims 56-58 depend from claim 55 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
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